

1       1. (Amended) Adapted to facilitate communications between a client device  
2 and a remote device, an [An] apparatus comprising:

3           a network interface[, through which the apparatus facilitates communication  
4 between a client device and a remote device at any of a number of alternative service  
5 levels] including (i) filters to control access to different service levels and (ii) a classifier,  
6 communicatively coupled to the filters, to classify and mark one of the service levels  
7 associated with a received data packet in response to satisfying filter criteria associated  
8 with at least one filter; and

9           a controller[,] coupled to the network interface, to dynamically create and remove  
10 the filters controlling access to the different service levels based, at least in part, on an  
11 admissions profile.

1       2. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the at least one filter  
2 [filter(s)], when triggered, initiate an admission control decision preventing premature  
3 allocation of service level resources which are not yet required or authorized.

1       3. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein each of the filters is [are]  
2 triggered by information contained within the received data packet[s].

1       4. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 3, wherein each of the filters is [are]  
2 triggered by one or both of packet source information and packet destination information.

1       5. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the admissions profile is stored in a  
2 communicatively coupled remote device.

1       6. The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the communicatively coupled remote  
2 device is a bandwidth broker or other generic policy server.

1       7. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the admissions profile is available  
2 locally within the apparatus.

1           8.     The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the controller establishes an ingress  
2 profile in response to detecting an associated trigger event, wherein the ingress profile  
3 modifies the received data packet[s] adhering to the filter criteria to denote a particular  
4 service level, in accordance with the admissions profile.

1           9.     The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the controller removes ingress profiles  
2 when data packets adhering to the filter criteria are no longer received, liberating  
3 apparatus resources.

1           10.    The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the controller removes ingress profiles  
2 after a predetermined period of time, liberating apparatus resources.

1           11.    (Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the controller removes at  
2 least one of the filters in accordance with a network administration policy.

1           12.    (Amended) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the controller removes at  
2 least one of the filters based, at least in part, on time-of-day.

1           13.    (Amended) A method for controlling provision of differentiated services  
2 in a data network, the method comprising:

3           (a)    installing a filter on a network edge device to provide a trigger notification  
4 upon detecting data packets adhering to filter criteria[, in accordance with a network  
5 administration policy]; [and

6           (b)    dynamically creating an ingress profiler which polices admission to a  
7 particular service level]

8           (b)    determining whether a received data packet satisfies the filter criteria; and

9           (c)    issuing a command by a bandwidth broker to a controller of the network  
10 edge device to dynamically install or remove a filter in response to determining whether  
11 the received data packet satisfies the filter criteria.

1           14. The method of claim 13, further comprising [(c)] (d) marking the received  
2 data packets adhering to the filter criteria according to a subscribed service level.

1           15. (CANCEL)

1           16. (New) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the classifier marks a Type of  
2 Service (ToS) field of the received data packet to denote a level of service for  
3 transmission of the data packet.

17. (New) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the controller further dynamically controls access to at least one classifier profile in accordance with the admission profile.